



Iowa Board of Medicine

Phone: 515-281-5171
www.medicalboard.iowa.gov

Protecting & Improving
the Health of Iowans



The Iowa Board of Medicine takes seriously its fundamental responsibility to serve the citizens of Iowa by ensuring that physicians and acupuncturists are qualified to practice and they are adhering to laws, rules and standards that regulate their practices.

In addition to helping Iowans get quality medical care, the Iowa Board of Medicine helps physicians quickly establish their practices in Iowa. The Board's database allows applicants and licensees to apply for a license or renew their Iowa license online through the Board's website. In FY 2016, all applications for new licenses were received online and 98.7 percent of renewals were processed online.

The 10-member Board and the agency's professional staff work hard to protect the public by responding to complaints and mandatory reports concerning conduct or competency issues of physicians and licensed acupuncturists practicing in Iowa. The Board's 2015 annual report, a statistical tabulation of licensure, and enforcement, and regulatory activities, is available at [www.medicalboard.iowa.gov/images/Stats/2015 Annual Report.pdf](http://www.medicalboard.iowa.gov/images/Stats/2015%20Annual%20Report.pdf).

Did you know? There are 11,967 physicians and 63 acupuncturists licensed to provide health services to Iowans.

Why is the Iowa Board of Medicine important to protecting and improving the health of Iowans?

- Iowans deserve medical care and acupuncture from competent, qualified practitioners. By licensing providers, we help keep untrained and dishonest individuals from working in Iowa.
- The medical board provides licensure, investigation, and services for professionals with substance abuse or mental health problems. Iowa law mandates such services.
- Research shows that monitoring programs, like the Iowa Physician Health program, are highly effective in reducing the likelihood of a return to addictive or problem behavior.
- Thousands of Iowans use the Docfinder service on the medical board's Web site each year. Docfinder provides information about licensees to the public.

Which Iowa Public Health Goals are we working to achieve?

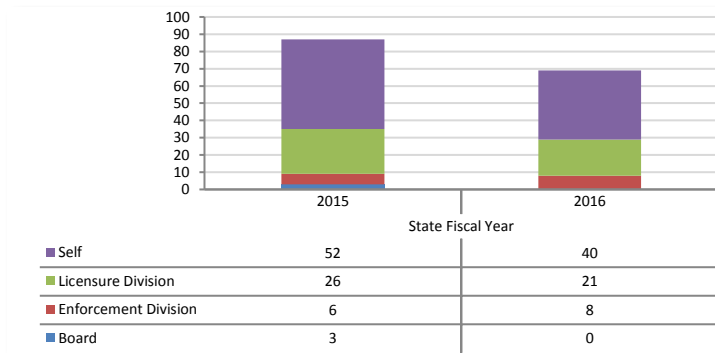
Strengthen the health infrastructure

What do we do?

- License health professionals.
- Investigate complaints about health professionals.
- Discipline health professionals who have broken the law.
- Monitor disciplined and impaired health professionals so they can return to practice as soon as they are safe to practice again.
- Provide information about licensure and discipline to the public, employers, and credentialers.
- Speak to professional groups, students, and the public.
- Watch trends in other states and use that information to help form policy.

How do we measure our progress?

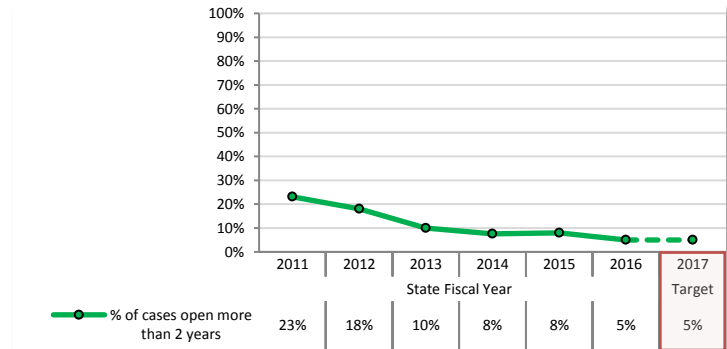
❶ Referral source for physicians in the Iowa Physician Health Program (IPHP).



Data Source: Manual counts. Data are available annually.

How are we doing? The majority of the participants in the IPHP self-reported, which means they reported their potential impairment to the IPHP on their own. This data supports the work being done to increase awareness of the program.

❷ Percent of open cases that have been open for more than two years.



Data Source: Board database. Data are available annually.

How are we doing? The percentage continues to decline, allowing the Board to be more responsive to public concerns about licensees' competence and conduct.

What can Iowans do to help?

1. All Iowans can use the Docfinder on the medical board's Web site to search for a licensed physician or acupuncturist. Go to www.medicalboard.iowa.gov to use Docfinder.
2. Physicians and licensed acupuncturists should learn about and follow ethical and medical guidelines.
3. Physicians and employers should use the Iowa Physician Health Program to deal with physicians who show an impairment or potential impairment (for example, addiction or mental health problems). Go to www.iphp.iowa.gov to learn more.

Expenditures

Retained fees*: K19-2071/2075

	State Fiscal Year 2015 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2016 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2017 Estimate
State funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other funds*	\$2,953,565	\$2,921,368	\$4,609,831
Total funds	\$2,953,565	\$2,921,368	\$4,609,831
FTEs	23.36	22.63	24.50

Note: Funding information is intended to provide an overview of funding related to the program area. It does not include all federal and state requirements and/or restrictions for the use of funds. Contact the program area for more detailed budget information.

Iowa Department of Public Health ♦ Iowa Board of Medicine

Phone: 515-281-5171 ♦ Fax: 515-242-5908 ♦ www.medicalboard.iowa.gov

400 SW 8th Street, Suite C ♦ Des Moines, IA 50309-4686